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Economic and Social Council

Provisional

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Organizational session for 2006

Provisional summary record of the 5th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Wednesday, 22 March 2006, at 6.10 p.m.

President: Mr. Hachani ..... (Tunisia)

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06-27953 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 6.10 p.m.

Election of a Vice-President

1. **The President** announced the departure from the Council of Ambassador Gediminas Šerkšnys. In accordance with rule 22 of the Council's rules of procedure, the Group of Eastern European States had endorsed the candidacy of Mr. Dalius Čekuolis, the new Permanent Representative of Lithuania to the United Nations, to replace Ambassador Šerkšnys.

2. *Mr. Dalius Čekuolis (Lithuania) was elected by acclamation Vice-President of the Council for the remainder of its 2006 session.*

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (*continued*) (E/2006/10 and E/2006/L.3)

Consideration of draft proposals before the Council

Operational activities segment of the substantive session of 2006 of the Economic and Social Council (E/2006/L.3)

3. **The President** drew attention to the draft decision contained in document E/2006/L.3, submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Léo Merores (Haiti), on the basis of informal consultations. As the Council had been informed at its informal consultations prior to the meeting, the Council had held a series of discussions on the topic under the facilitation of Mr. Merores and Ms. Ruder (Switzerland).

4. **Mr. Cazeau** (Haiti) said that, despite extensive efforts, it had not been possible to reach consensus on the draft decision. He was therefore submitting the draft decision to a vote.

5. **The President** informed the Council that a recorded vote had been requested. As there were no mechanical means in the Chamber for taking a recorded vote, the vote would be by roll-call, in accordance with rule 61 of the Council's rules of procedure.

6. **Mr. Oosthuizen** (South Africa), speaking in explanation of vote before the voting and on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, reiterated that the draft decision had the Group's full support, as it was in line with the resolution on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system adopted by the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session (resolution 59/250).

7. *A vote was taken by roll-call on the draft decision contained in document E/2006/L.3.*

8. *Germany, having been drawn by lot by the President, was called upon to vote first.*

In favour:

Albania, Angola, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, France, Germany, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, Madagascar, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United Republic of Tanzania.

Against:

United States of America.

Abstaining:

None.

9. *The draft decision contained in document E/2006/L.3 was adopted by 51 votes to one, with no abstentions.*

10. **Mr. Hughes** (United States of America) said that the General Assembly and various other United Nations entities were engaged in the reform process set out in the 2005 World Summit Outcome (General Assembly resolution 60/1). However, the Council had once again demonstrated its recklessness by shirking its responsibilities to implement reform. In the course of negotiations on the draft decision, the United States had made several attempts to include references to the 2005 World Summit Outcome. His delegation was disappointed that the text of the decision did not mention or acknowledge that outcome document in any way whatsoever and had therefore voted against it.

Draft resolution on "Implementation of General Assembly resolution 60/251"

11. **The President** invited the Council to consider the draft resolution entitled "Implementation of General

Assembly resolution 60/251", which had just been adopted *ad referendum* during informal consultations. He read out the text in English, as follows:

"*The Economic and Social Council,*

Recalling its resolution 5 (I) of 16 February 1946, by which it established the Commission on Human Rights, and its subsequent relevant resolutions relating to the mandate of the Commission,

Also recalling General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006,

1. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to conclude its work at its sixty-second session, which should be short and procedural, and to transmit its final report to the Council;

2. *Decides* to abolish the Commission on Human Rights with effect on 16 June 2006."

12. **The President** said he took it that the Council wished to adopt the draft resolution.

13. *It was so decided.*

The meeting rose at 6.20 p.m.